

# Farmers' Champion

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## MONTENEGRO THREATENED

AUSTRIA STILL ANXIOUS TO MIX IN THE TURCO-BALKAN DIFFICULTY.

### ORDER TO EVACUATE SCUTARI

Other Powers Holding Back—Austria Seeks Help of Italy.—Movements of Essad Pasha Still a Mystery.

London.—The British foreign office still has no news that Austria is actually taking separate action against Montenegro. It is understood Austria is waiting the result of another ambassadorial conference and employing the interval in an endeavor to induce Italy to join her in military action. Meetings of the ambassadors in London have shown conclusively that a majority of the powers are not prepared to adopt war-like measures against Montenegro. It is thus practically certain that within a few days, whether Italy consents or not, Austria will dispatch an ultimatum to Cetinje demanding the immediate evacuation of Scutari.

Not another word of Essad Pasha's doings in Albania has come through. Kemal Bey, head of the provisional Albanian government, has arrived in London to enlist British support. He and other Albanians do not regard Essad Pasha's coup very seriously, but the opinion seems to be growing among diplomats here that an administration under Essad Pasha in Albania might not be such an impossible solution of a difficult problem.

It is considered that Essad Pasha as an influential Albanian with a strong following and the prestige of a gallant defense of Scutari, might be more acceptable to Albanians than a foreign prince, and that if allowed to retain his self-chosen post, he might be inclined to make territorial concessions which would compensate Montenegro for the loss of Scutari and satisfy European claims.

### PASS ALIEN LAND BILL

California Senate Ignores Advice of Wm. J. Bryan.

Sacramento, Cal.—If it was the purpose of the visit of Secretary of State Bryan to check further action by the legislature on an alien land law directed against the Japanese, his mission has failed.

The conferences between Secretary Bryan and the legislators closed at 11:30 o'clock Tuesday night. Within three minutes and before most of the spectators knew what had occurred, Senator A. E. Boynton, president pro tem of the upper house, convened the senate and an amended land bill, which provides that no alien who is ineligible to citizenship under the laws of the United States may hold real property in California, was adopted as a substitute for the pending measure by unanimous viva voce vote.

It will come up for final passage in the regular course of business on Thursday morning and probably will be approved, and, when it comes to Governor Johnson, it will be signed, according to the opinion of leaders.

The new bill is drawn in strict conformity with the treaty between Japan and the United States, but all efforts to gain an opinion from Secretary Bryan or President Wilson failed and the state leaders decided forthwith to proceed with their plans for enacting it into law.

### COPS ON TRIAL FOR GRAFT

Defendants Are Denied Bail and Locked Up in Tombs.

New York.—Four high police officers declared by the district attorney to have been figures in the "system" of police graft, were placed on trial in the supreme court.

The defendants are Dennis Sweeney, James E. Hussey, James F. Thompson and John J. Murtham all former inspectors.

M. O. LEIGHTON



M. O. Leighton, chief hydrographer of the United States geological survey, says the loss of life and property caused by the floods could not have been prevented by any human agency; that no reservoir system could be devised to take care of such a deluge of water.

### BIG LAND FRAUDS UNCOVERED

Government Officials Declare Indians Have Been Poisoned.

Fort Smith, Ark.—That several sensational exposures are expected in connection with the alleged discovery by government officials that Indians in eastern Oklahoma have been poisoned by land sharks who later inherited the property of the victims, became known when it was learned that the coils are tightening around an undertaker and a physician, residents of the Choctaw nation, and their arrest is momentarily expected, according to statements made in this city.

Officials who have been investigating a dozen or more mysterious deaths of Indian land owners in the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations, have discovered that the undertaker and physician under suspicion have been called in their respective capacities to supply their services in at least six cases, where the Indians died suddenly. Federal officials aver that they were employed to make bogus oaths as to the cause of the deaths, being in collusion with the land grafters.

Two real estate dealers of Hugo, Oklahoma, are already accused in state warrants with giving an Indian a quantity of poisoned whisky which, however, he did not drink.

### Copper King Made Defendant.

Austin, Tex.—F. Augustus Heinze of Amalgamated Copper fame, is defendant with W. C. Shaw of Cameron county in a suit filed here to foreclose on sugar mill property at San Benito valued at nearly \$350,000. The plaintiff is the San Benito Sugar Manufacturing company which sold its holdings one year ago to Heinze and Shaw who, it claims, have defaulted in the payment of notes as they fell due.

### Tin Soldier Draws Fancy Salary.

Albany, N. Y.—A bill providing a salary of \$8,000 a year and \$3,000 expenses for Major General John F. Oryan, head of the New York National Guard, was signed by Governor Sulzer. General Oryan's salary is the same as that paid a major general in the United States army.

### Aviation Test At Target Practice.

San Diego, Calif.—Lieut. Samuel McCleary, U. S. A. aviation corps, in an army flight here remained stationary over the armored cruiser Maryland during target practice with the 8-inch guns to test the effect of concussion on the stability of the machine. The test was made at an altitude of 5,000 feet and, although the machine rocked dangerously whenever the guns were discharged, the aviator succeeded in righting it each time.

## SWANSON IS AGAIN ON MAP

COUNTY DIVISION FIGHT IN SOUTHEAST PART OF STATE RENEWED.

### PART OF COMANCHE AND KIOWA

Nearly Five Hundred Citizens Meet in Town of Mountain Park and Re-Establish Government.—Officials Elected.

Mountain Park.—About 500 taxpayers and citizens of Swanson county met in mass convention at Mountain Park and re-established Swanson county government.

This procedure was finally determined upon after several months' investigation of the court procedure that was used in disorganizing Swanson county.

The investigators hold that the work in the attempted dissolution is not stable and that some of the best authorities in the state recognize Swanson county, as did the present legislature.

The convention by mass vote elected two commissioners, J. H. Saville and J. L. Barnes, to fill vacancies now existing, the present county judge, J. E. Bryan, duly swearing the commissioners in. Judge Bryan then resigned and Judge Cook, of Snyder, was appointed his successor; Judge Bryan was then appointed as superintendent of schools to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Joseph Beeley, who resigned to take the county attorneyship.

John Anderson, the county assessor, resigned his office, and Henry Wood was appointed sheriff to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of W. H. Brashers.

Representatives from every part of the county were present, some from Manitou, Cooperton, and the Comanche strip, taking an active part in the reorganization of the county. The city of Snyder was largely represented, several hundred being present from there. The following pledge was drawn up by the convention, and received several hundred signers:

"We, the taxpayers and citizens of Swanson county, do hereby pledge ourselves to give our home county government our best moral support and ask that all officers of Swanson county immediately take charge of their respective offices, and prepare themselves to properly administer the affairs of the same. We further pledge ourselves that we will pay all our 1913 taxes into Swanson county for our schools and other purposes of home government, and will continue to do so as long as the offices are administered honestly and economically."

The commissioners set their commissioners' meeting for Monday, May 4, when the regular business of the county was taken up. A large flag was placed on the water tower to proclaim the county's resurrection.

The county includes the four congressional townships on the west end of the present Comanche county, all of the present Kiowa county lying between Comanche and the north fork of the Red river, and two additional townships from the upper half of Kiowa.

### Find Deficiency in U. S. Accounts.

Washington.—Footling up accounts, Uncle Sam found a deficiency of \$3,654,000 for the month of April. Exclusive of Panama canal and public transactions, the receipts for April amounted to \$53,452,000, while disbursements reached \$57,106,000.

Up to date for the current fiscal year, however, there is a surplus of ordinary receipts over ordinary disbursements of \$5,968,000 against a deficit a year ago of \$12,580,000.

Customs receipts for last month fell off \$2,500,000 as compared with April, 1912, while internal revenue receipts increased \$2,000,000.

A big factor in the increased expenditures for the month just closed was the pension payments under the new law.

## CHICKENS FOR A FARM

American Breeds Meet Demand for General Purpose Fowl.

Best Recommendation for Plymouth Rock is Excellent Growth of Chicks, in Which Quality They Are Without Superior.

(By E. O. ERF.)  
The American breeds of chickens have been made by the mixing of certain types. They have been formed to meet the demand for a general purpose fowl and they fulfill this demand better than any other breed.

These breeds are more variable in traits than breeds with more years of uniform ancestry to their credit. If strict selection is not maintained the American varieties are inclined to vary and revert to ancestral types.

The barred variety of the Plymouth Rocks is the original Plymouth Rock.



Prize Buff Plymouth Rock Cockerel.

and is, perhaps, all things considered, the most popular breed in this country at the present time.

Its origin is commonly given as a cross between the Black Java and the American Dominique. Besides the Java other Asiatic blood has probably been used in making the breed.

The Plymouth Rock is more like the Asiatic than like the European chicken. It approaches in size and fattening qualities the Cochins or Brahmas, but has lost the excessive feathering, slowness of growth and general clumsiness of those breeds.

The best recommendation for the Plymouth Rock on the farm is the excellent growth made by the young chickens. In this quality they have no superior. The Plymouth Rock pullets are good layers, but as yearling hens are prone to turn into fat rather than eggs.

Another objection to the barred variety is the difficulty in keeping the breed true to the standard type. The pure-bred type birds are required to have even and distinct bars of the same shade in male and female.

These are difficult points to maintain, and resort is often made to double mating or the keeping of two breeding pens, one to produce cockerels and the other pullets.

The white and buff Plymouth Rocks are later products than the barred variety. Much of what has been said will apply to them also. The following differences might be noted:

The white variety is free from the color objection of the barred type, but the objection to the fattening tendency applies to hens of this variety perhaps more forcibly than to the barred.

Buff Plymouth Rocks will probably average smaller than the other varieties of the breed. Although a solid-colored bird, they like all buff breeds, except the buff Cochins, will be found difficult to breed to one color, owing to the tendency to possess black or white in the wings and tail.

## DAIRY NOTES

Watch the cow's coat. It is a fine indication of her physical condition.

There is no special method that need be followed in raising a bull calf.

Bad ventilation in the cow stable is responsible for many diseased cattle.

It is every dairyman's business to ask each cow what she does with her feed.

## GIVE THE VEGETABLES ROOM

Much Garden Truck Has Been Ruined by Not Thinning Out at Proper Time—Nerve Needed.

Do not be afraid to thin out your plants—they must not be crowded. Probably more garden stuff has been ruined for want of being thinned at the proper time than by any other cause.

However that may be, one of the most puzzling things for the beginner to find out is whether any particular vegetable should be thinned or transplanted, and how far apart the plants should stand afterward.

He will get some help from the catalogues as to the distances, but whether he should transplant or thin is the kind of thing that is not in the book.

It requires a great deal of nerve to pull up and destroy the unnecessary seedling—more nerve than the amateur possesses. They say that a person never becomes a good gardener until he steals his nerve to this ruthless sacrifice.

A vegetable must have plenty of room to develop its best size and flavor, and one can take no pride in small commonplace vegetables.

## QUALITIES OF FLY-CATCHER

Examination of Stomach of the Little Bird Showed 99 Per Cent. of Animal Matter.

(By F. E. L. HEAL.)  
The western yellow-bellied fly-catcher occupies the western part of the United States from the Pacific coast eastward as far as the eastern foothills of the Rockies and as far north as Alaska. It is found in its summer range about eight months of the year and during the winter in Mexico.

For the study of this bird's food, 150 stomachs were examined. The food was found to consist of 99.31 per cent. animal food to 0.69 per cent. of vegetable.

From this it is evident that the good qualities of the western yellow-bellied fly-catcher far outweigh the bad—if indeed it can be said to have any bad ones. It eats predaceous beetles, but the percentage is so small that no great harm can be done. The other insects are mostly those that we are glad to lose. The bird is too small to injure fruit or grain.



Western Yellow-Bellied Fly-Catcher, and it is of a confiding and domestic nature, inclined to live about the abodes of man, where it can do the most good.

### Lettuce Plants.

Avoid the use of too much water on the lettuce plants. It may cause them to damp off and it will tend to produce soft and splendid plants. Stocky plants are an important factor in producing a good crop of lettuce.

### Soaking Seeds.

Celery, parsnips and other slow-sprouting seed should be soaked for a day or more before being planted. It will come up quicker if so treated and then placed in moist soil in early spring.

### Onion Sets.

Onion sets cannot be planted too early in the spring. Early planting counts for early maturity and large size of bulbs. See that the soil is fine and mellow before starting the plant.